



Prescription Drug Core Group Meeting

March 27, 2018

1:00 p.m.

Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family – Conference Room B

1700 West Washington Street, Suite 230, Phoenix, Arizona 85007

A general meeting of the Prescription Drug Core Group convened on March 27, 2018 at the Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family, Conference Room B, 1700 West Washington Street, Suite 230 Phoenix, Arizona 85007.

Members Present (14)

Sheila Sjolander, Chairman, Arizona Department of Health Services
Alexa Ballesteros, High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area
Catie Clark, Arizona Criminal Justice Commission
Tracy Cruickshank, Maricopa County Department of Public Health
Ted Huntington, ICAN: Positive Programs for Youth, and CCYSA: Chandler Coalition Against Youth
Brett Klein, High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area
Jacqueline Kurth, Industrial Commission of Arizona
Tomi St. Mars, Arizona Department of Health Services
Alyssa Padilla, University of Arizona Center for Rural Health
Lauren Prole, Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS), (via phone)
Doug Skvarla, Controlled Substance Prescription Monitoring Program (CDMP)
Travis Williams, Arizona Attorney General's Office
Courtney Whitley, Arizona Air National Guard (AZNG)
Pearl Yellowman, Phoenix Indian Center

Staff/Guests Present (9)

Members Absent (3)

Samuel Burba , Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family	Heather Brown , Mercy Maricopa Integrated Care
Dawna Allington , Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family	Thomas Kelly , Apache Junction Police Department
Adrian Gariboldi , Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family	Michelle Shurka , AHCCCS
Tonya Hamilton , Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family	
Lacie Ampadu , Arizona Department of Health Services	
Lisa O'Neill , Arizona Air National Guard (AZNG)	
Cindi Hunter , AZ State Board of Pharmacy	
Melinda Cobb , Arizona Department of Health Services	
Keith Walker , Maricopa County Department of Public Health	

Call to Order

- Sheila Sjolander, Chairman**, called the Prescription Drug Core Group meeting to order at 1:03 pm with fourteen (14) members and nine (9) staff and guests present.

Welcome/Introductions

- Sheila Sjolander, Chairman**, welcomed everyone and asked them to introduce themselves.

Approval of Minutes

- Minutes for the meeting held January 16, 2018, were reviewed. **Tomi St. Mars** made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by **Samuel Burba**.

Membership Updates

- **Sheila Sjolander, Chairman** began by welcoming new members to the group and by asking them to introduce themselves to the Group as a whole.
- **Tracy Cruickshank** of the Maricopa County Department of Public Health introduced herself and summarized her work on opioid abuse prevention.
- **Alyssa Padilla** of the University of Arizona Rural Health Center introduced herself and summarized her background working on issues related to substance abuse.
- **Courtney Whitley** of the AZ Air National Guard introduced herself and encouraged other organizations to reach out to the National Guard for any specific ways they can help.
- **Pearl Yellowman** of the Phoenix Indian Center introduced herself and summarized her behavioral health background working directly with American Indians.

Opioid STR Grant Updates

- **Dawna Allington** began by summarizing recent activities relevant to the Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family's (GOYFF) work with the Opioid STR grant. She stated that the office is currently purchasing prescription drug drop boxes, locating any areas of gap across the state, trying to install drop boxes in rural areas so that they may be more accessible, and working with several Native American law enforcement officials to get drop boxes installed in more native communities. In addition, she clarified that SAMHSA has in fact given the state permission to use grant funds to help police departments pay for drug disposal, and she encouraged members of the Core Group to reach out if they know of any areas in the state that need a drop box. Ms. Allington has also been scheduling and conducting Rx Toolkit trainings across the state, and wants to expand participation as much as possible to coalitions and organizations that need it. Ms. Allington then detailed how state universities are working to implement Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) on their campuses – ASU is currently implementing SBIRT campus-wide, NAU has implemented SBIRT in its health clinics, and the University of Arizona is having all patients fill out intake forms that include questions about substance abuse.
- **Tomi St Mars** asked whether Law Enforcement agencies (LEAs) have been contacted about being given Naloxone at the same time as when they are approached about whether or not they would like a prescription drug drop box in their departments. She suggests that LEAs should also receive Naloxone order forms when they are contacted about drop boxes.
- **Dawna Allington** replied that she had not done so but would research the possibility.
- **Tomi St. Mars** asked if all pharmacies were eligible to receive drop boxes.
- **Dawna Allington** replied that pharmacies must have specific registration with the DEA in order to collect medication, and stated that many pharmacies don't want take back days publicized. In response, Ms. Allington recommends continued efforts to shift stigma surrounding OUDs and SUDs in general.

Strategic planning with the Rx Toolkit: Successes and Barriers

- **Ted Huntington** summarized successes and obstacles ICAN and CCYSA have faced in implementing the Toolkit in their organizations. First, he states that clearly outlined goals and objectives have been extremely useful in helping to make sure resources are effectively utilized to implement the Toolkit. Obstacles have included finding people willing to make in-kind donations, getting individuals to prioritize the objectives of the task force first over those of their own organizations, and convincing organizations that utilization of the Toolkit will in fact result in substantial change in the community. When reaching out to potential partner organizations, Mr. Huntington recommends meeting directly, in-person with individuals who hold sway in their organizations. He also summarized difficulty getting adults to attend substance abuse prevention events. In response, he recommends the creation of Public Service Announcements (PSAs) directly targeting vulnerable adults. Mr. Huntington recommends the creation of a personal assessment that adults can utilize to discover if they are suffering symptoms of a SUD. Final recommendations included making Rx360 information more relevant to school resource officers (SROs) so that they are more likely to

implement them, creating resources to help SROs get their own grant funding, encouraging SROs to directly target school resource officers to better reach children and teens, and getting SROs to help in the creation of resources so that there may be more useful to the work being done in the community.

- **Samuel Burba** stated that the makers of Rx360, DrugFreeAZ, would likely not be opposed to altering Rx360 for SROs when appropriate.
- **Tracy Cruickshank** reiterated that local partnerships could be leveraged to create PSAs, and **Catie Clark** recommended that the Group partner with AZ Post to create these PSAs.

Rx Website Updates

- **Samuel Burba** provided an overview of the updates made to the Rethink RxAbuse website. Changes made include a new layout that allows access to each strategy from the main page, several design alterations, question and answer sections for each strategy, a method for downloading only parts of each strategy, links to training videos and powerpoints at the bottom of each strategy, and the ability to request Toolkit training directly from the website. Mr. Burba emphasized that the website will become the primary training tool instead of physical copies of the toolkit.
- **Dawna Allington** emphasized that help is needed in developing the question and answer sections for each strategy.
- **Tomi St. Mars** recommended that Department of Justice (DOJ) resources be incorporated into the Toolkit, the inclusion of a Naloxone order form within all strategies, and stock photographs more relevant to the stakeholders specific to each strategy.
- **Samuel Burba** suggested that the update process continue progressively throughout the year with Core Group approval for each alteration.
- **Tracy Cruickshank** recommended the creation of a question submission box where individuals can inquire about the Toolkit and submit recommendations for new items to be included.
- **Sheila Sjolander** expressed excitement over having the Toolkit fully available online in an accessible format.

Rx Toolkit Updates

- **Dawna Allington** summarized current and potential future updates that are being made to the Toolkit. She stated that the general goal has been to make documents shorter so that they are more accessible to the general public – documents that individuals can read quickly and gain a rapid understanding of the content. Many documents are drawn from resources created by SAMHSA and ADHS. Ms. Allington also clarified that several documents in the Toolkit are included in every strategy, and confirmed that links to the prescription drug drop box locator are included throughout the Toolkit. She also emphasized the importance of stigma reduction in getting individuals to seek treatment.
- **Tomi St. Mars** emphasized that links and references to the new opioid response line need to be made available throughout the Toolkit. **Sheila Sjolander, Chairman** and **Lacie Ampadu** also emphasized the importance of the new call center. Ms. St. Mars also recommended more information on Naloxone be provided in the Toolkit to help assist with stigma reduction. **Jacqueline Kurth** cited how naloxone is being prescribed for individuals with chronic pain in addition to opioids.
- **Dawna Allington** described how the second phase of Toolkit updates will provide even more materials to help prevent substance abuse. Phase 2 updates should be completed in the next two to three months. Ms. Allington then listed everything that has been and will be added to the Toolkit. She emphasized that all changes to the Toolkit are only proposals and must be approved by the Core Group.
- **Tracy Cruickshank** and **Jacqueline Kurth** suggested that a document providing information of Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) and SUDs in general should be provided within the Toolkit. This would include information for employers and employees on how employees receiving MAT are legally protected.
- **Samuel Burba** emphasized that the GOYFF does not need to directly develop all the content for the Toolkit and is happy to have materials included in the Toolkit from other agencies.

- **Doug Skvarla** suggested that information on the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) for doctors and patients should be included in the Toolkit.
- **Sheila Sjolander, Chairman** recommended the GOYFF also include the documents on SUD currently in development by ADHS in the Toolkit.
- **Dawna Allington** requested support in reaching coalitions to schedule trainings. Her ultimate goal is to create a system of contacts and a mentoring system where Toolkit trainings are conducted statewide and reach every coalition across the state. Ms. Allington would like group members to forward her contacts of individuals trained in the Toolkit that would be willing to mentor other organizations about best practices in utilizing the Toolkit.
- **Sheila Sjolander, Chairman** suggests a motion should be made to accept Phase 1 changes to the Toolkit. **Tomi St. Mars** made a motion to approve Phase 1 changes. The motion was seconded by **Alyssa Padilla**.

Agency/Partner Updates

- **Samuel Burba** shared that the GOYFF is updating the prescription drug drop box locator with information from poison control. He also stated that coordination between the Arizona Substance Abuse Partnership (ASAP) and ADHS has helped the development of a youth prevention campaign.
- **Alyssa Padilla** stated that the Center for Rural Health is trying to collect information on substance abuse prevention and treatment projects happening across the state. She encouraged everyone on the Core Group to get involved with these efforts to connect with rural coalitions statewide in every county.
- **Doug Skvarla** detailed efforts around education at the PDMP, including the introduction of webinars. The PDMP is currently meeting with influential individuals in the pharmacy world so that all pharmacists know the new requirements of the Opioid Epidemic Act. PDMP is continuing to reach out to as many organizations as possible statewide.
- **Jacqueline Kurth** stated that the Industrial Commission of Arizona is working to expand the use of evidence-based treatment guidelines. Ms. Kurth also detailed how the implementation of SB1111 will be handled largely through the Industrial Commission.
- **Tomi St. Mars** introduced **Melinda Cobb**, a new employee at ADHS responsible for the Naloxone program and overdose prevention program.
- **Travis Williams** stated that the Arizona Attorney General's Office is continuing with trainings across the state, is exploring how best to investigate diversion on a criminal level, is signing up police officers across the state for the PDMP, is investigating drug diversion in healthcare field, and is adding three new agents to the force to help oversee diversion efforts statewide.
- **Catie Clark** encouraged Group members to assist in the recruitment of schools and community partners for substance abuse prevention projects. The Arizona Criminal Justice Commission is also conducting a substance abuse prevention survey of educators across the state.
- **Pearl Yellowman** stated that the Phoenix Indian Center continues to be committed to tribes in an urban setting. The Center wants to tie the Rx360 curriculum in with a trauma-informed care approach that also takes into account the unique historical trauma that Native American communities have suffered. Ms. Yellowman also reminded group members to be sensitive to the unique cultural needs of tribal communities.
- **Lacie Ampadu** described how ADHS is starting an evaluation project on the success and barriers faced during the implementation of the Toolkit.
- **Brett Klein** detailed the successes of the HIDTA opioid summit in February. HIDTA is currently compiling the threat assessment for 2017-18. Current evidence indicates that crack cocaine is making a re-emergence on the streets, methamphetamine continues to be a significant strain on Arizona communities, and opioids continue to be a huge problem in both urban and rural areas.
- **Courtney Whitley** stated the Arizona Air National Guard (AZNG) is working on surveys to better understand the effects of the opioid crisis on Arizona's communities. AZNG is also working to get the Rx360 curriculum implemented in schools, and is collaborating with the city of Chandler to organize drug

take back days and a medication disposal tracking system. AZNG is also seeking to build a larger team of civil operators across the state.

- **Lauren Prole** had no new updates.

Future Meeting Dates

- Next meeting is scheduled for:
 - May 29th, 2018 at 1:00pm

Future Agenda Items

- Commission members will receive an update on all Phase 2 materials in the Prescription Drug Toolkit from **Dawna Allington** and **Lacie Ampadu**.
- The group felt it would be useful to hear from the DEA about how to certify pharmacies and other organizations so they may establish drop boxes and drug takeback days.

Adjourn

- **Sheila Sjolander, Chairman**, called for a motion to adjourn.
- **Jacqueline Kurth** moved to adjourn the meeting at 3:02 pm. Motion was seconded by **Doug Skvarla**. Meeting was adjourned at 3:02 pm.